Women of the World 2016 Symposium
Intimate Friends
By Rev. Donald L. Perryman, D.Min.
The Truth Contributor

.... There are roads out of the secret place within us along which we must all move as we go to touch others.

– Romare Bearden

The March 15 Ohio primary confirmed that the African-American vote is relevant and also suggests that the ability to win over African-American voters will be critical for hopefuls in the November 8, 2016 general and presidential elections.

Hillary Clinton, despite shared policy views on substantive issues, was able to distance herself from rival Bernie Sanders and establish a clear path to the Democratic Party presidential nomination, by riding waves of overwhelming African-American support.

In contrast, Sanders’ progressive message emphasizing income inequality has appealed to liberals but fell flat among black voters.

The difference?

Sanders, whose home state Vermont is 95 percent white, appears to talk about the black community from second hand as opposed to experiential knowledge. “He tries too hard to convince me that he knows us but then will say something that shows that he is totally unfamiliar,” a retired African-American educator noted. “You’ve got this white privileged guy talking about progressive issues and really good stuff, but he does it without acknowledging the fact that he’s coming from privilege. It’s like he’s repeating what he learned out of a book or from a college class on the black experience. With Hillary, you get a better sense of empathy,” adds a young urban professional.

Hillary Clinton, on the other hand, taking advantage of President Obama’s 89 percent approval rate among African Americans, has branded her candidacy as a “continuation of the Obama presidency.” This is no accident.

In addition, by utilizing her long-term associations and intimate familiarity with black institutions, social networks and political systems, as journalist Paul Waldman points out, Clinton has the structure already in place for an effective ground campaign and system to translate her ideas into action. Clinton’s established friendship provides a distinct advantage over Sanders, who is finding that building solid relationships is a task that cannot be accomplished “on the fly.”

It will also be interesting to see how the intimate black friend theme plays out in the 2016 race for Lucas County Commissioner.

Both Commissioner Pete Gerken and Republican challenger, former Mayor Michael Bell, have deep established roots in Toledo’s black community. The obstinate Bell benefits from a network of professional and business ties and those gained from the goodwill and activism of his parents Norman and Ora Bell. The self-willed Gerken’s roots to the African-American community run through his ties with the Democratic Party, labor unions and black clergy.

Notably, Bell, the underdog, actually received more votes during the March 2016 primary than Gerken. No doubt this occurred due to the Trump excitement factor and an abnormally high Republican turnout because of the contested Republican presidential primary. Additionally, Bell was unopposed whereas Gerken was challenged by Spencer Township Trustee Michael Hood, who took votes away from his total.

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Community Calendar

March 25
Mt. Nebo Good Friday Service: Noon; Ham giveaway after service for attendees: 419-246-8561
St. James The Armory Church Good Friday Service: Noon; “The Last Words of Jesus on the Cross:” 419-867-8143

March 26
Braden UMC Easter Egg Hunt: 1 to 3 pm; For children up to age 5

April 2-May 14
Braden UMC The Ladies Life Café: A Saturday Bible Study series based on the film War Room; 10 am to noon; to register call 419-386-2700

April 3
Indiana Avenue MBC 51st Pastoral Anniversary: Pastor John E. and First Lady Bernice Roberts; 10:50 morning service; 3:30 afternoon service with guests Rev. John Williams and Eastern Star MBC; “God’s Faithful, Willing and Unselfish Servant:” 419-246-3850

April 8-9
Pilgrim Church Rummage Sale: Fri – 9 am to 5 pm; Sat – 9 am to 2 pm; Furniture, collectibles, jewelry, toys, games, puzzles, books, glassware, kitchen items, household items, clothing and more: 419-478-6012

April 9
United Church of God Women’s Breakfast: “Turning Your Pain Into Purpose;” 9 to 11 am; Guest speaker La’Shawnda Bankston-Holmes: 419-810-6335

April 10
Beulah Baptist 10th Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Ronald Taylor: Morning Guest preacher Rev. Marilyn Taylor; Afternoon guest preacher Bishop Nolan White

April 11 – June 20
Mott Mane Mondays: A 5-week series providing participants with resources to aid in the care, styling and maintenance of African-American hair; Light refreshments provided at no charge; Mott Branch Library; Register at ToledoPLibrary.org; Topics include 04.11 – Films and Forums, 04.25 – DIY Den, 05.23 – Natural Hair Salon, 06.06 – Expressions of Naturalism (poetry), 06.20 – SWAP & Shop: 419-259-5230 or 419-984-0395

April 13
Beulah Baptist 10th Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Ronald Taylor: 7 pm; Guest preacher Rev. Stanley Clark

April 14
Beulah Baptist 10th Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Ronald Taylor: 7 pm; Guest preacher Rev. Scott Isham

April 17
Beulah Baptist 10th Pastoral Anniversary for Rev. Ronald Taylor: Morning guest preacher Rev. Larry Brazzel; Afternoon guest preacher Rev. F.A. Shearers

Open Mic Night: Our Brothers Place; Presented by Hoop Smart; Singing, jokes, poetry; 4 to 7 pm
The Wired Church

By Lafe Tolliver, Esq
Guest Column

Technology has taken another leap and this time it is a launch into the church pews. Now, there are “giving” apps that allow the technologically minded to simply text or apply a code and voila! they can electronically give their donations to the church of their choice.

Now, there is no need to be physically present in a church building to partake of the worship act that giving is supposed to be about.

Now, from the comfort of your home, car, plane, park, pizza parlor or barbershop, you can now “swipe n’ pray” and give your dollars to the kingdom and with no muss or fuss from passing the collection plate or standing to sing a praise song about the wondrous provisions of God.

Now, you can avoid those irritating pleas from the pulpit about giving to the neighbor next door who lost his house to a fire and you can now block out pleas to give to orphans and widows in Togo or Gambia or Syria.

Now, you can avoid eye contact with your fellow pew sitter when passing the offering basket and simply use your favorite app and give by yourself in blissful solitude.

Ahh...how good is this new technology! Or...is it?

Come to think of it and with so many pastors seemingly rah-rahing the goodies of technology, let’s consider some more conveniences that we can allow technology to serve us and make our lives more comfortable and have fewer contacts with people.

How about the following for the church folks to emulate?

One: Now that we can outsource our giving to an app on a smart phone, let’s do the following with the sermon. After all, it’s just a man or a woman standing up for about 20 to 30 minutes and preaching or teaching the Word of God.

Surely, we can wait for the CD or do a live feed at a different time other than on Sundays and still get the same message! Record it and move on! Matter of fact, I would rather sit by myself and hear it for myself without a lot of amening! or shouting served alongside the message.

I mean, do I really have to subject myself to Brother Calvin jumping up next to me and shouting an Amen! Using technology, I can fast forward past Bro Calvin and his emotion-al displays and focus on the Word. Ok...so I may miss why Bro Calvin shouted out as to his daughter being healed of pancreatic cancer, but I can wait for the rerun for that testimony.

Speaking of testimonies, with the church service being recorded, I can bypass people coming forward to the altar and confessing sins and such stuff and I can avoid families joining the church. I will see them some other time...just not now.

Two: With this new technology in the church, I can swoop in with my camera and pick up the choir and replay the songs that I want to hear. No more being captive to a slow moving Amazing Grace or a even slower, Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross. With a few taps on my phone connected to my TV, I can edit the service to what I want to see and hear. Isn’t technology great?

Three: No offense, but I can ditch the pastoral prayer and opening welcome from the lay leader and deacons. Prayers are a dime a dozen and Deacon Bennett simply does not move me with his long southern drawl about welcome to Third Flame Missionary Baptist Church. Been there...done that.

Four: Announcements and welcoming of guests. Are you serious? Go to the church website and the announcements about the youth outings and senior citizens meetings and free food distributions and the clothing drive and the church picnic are all there.

Why waste my Sunday time about something that I can read later?

Welcoming of guests? It’s recorded. I will check them out later when I get back from my Sunday golf outing or the sumptuous all you can eat buffet at Sandy’s Place.

Five: Benediction? That means the service is over, doesn’t it? If so, I am outta here and I will check the closing prayer when I see the video. Handshakes and hugs from the other pew sitters? Yeah, it’s OK but it is the same people and I do make it back to the church about once every other month and I can shake their hands then. No loss.

Remember, you critics, I am coming together as the Body of Christ. It is just that I am doing it a little differently. I am using the wonder of technology. Nothing wrong with that is it? No harm there, is it?

Six: Look at it this way. If everyone was like me, think of the huge savings there would be if everyone did what I am doing. No need for huge overhead expenses like mortgage payments, heating bills, paving of parking lots, water bills, minimal phone bills, low janitorial bills (nothing to clean because no one is at the church to get it dirty!), lower insurance costs, huge savings on the printing of bulletins and messages and stuff like that (hug a tree...save the forests!).

And you know what is best of all? No one constantly bugging you about how things are or what you are doing or how is your walk with the Lord or how is your auntie Helen doing or are you coming to the men’s breakfast or people asking you to pray for them or can you help out with the Easter program or the kid’s church. None of that touchy-feely stuff. What a relief.

Man, this technology stuff is fab and I am glad that it has finally invaded the church.

It is about time that the church catch up and get hip and move with it.

Now, we can do our own thing and not have someone looking over your shoulder about what are you doing for the Lord or about sin in your life. None of your business!

That is why this techno stuff is super cool! Just me and my smart phone and a TV.

Contact Lafe Tolliver, Attorney at Tolliver@ Juno.com

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Candice L. Harrison Named Director of Communications at Toledo Museum of Art

Candice L. Harrison has been named director of communications at the Toledo Museum of Art, effective March 7.

Museum director Brian Kennedy said Harrison will be responsible for all of the Museum’s internal and external communications, marketing and online communications, including the website and social media. She also will be involved in advancing the Museum’s strategic objective to engage more diverse audiences.

“It is with great pride that I join the staff at the Toledo Museum of Art,” Harrison said. “I am honored to be a part of an organization with such rich history, prestige and recognition locally and abroad. As a native Toledoan, community commitment is very important to me. I am excited to assist in TMA’s many efforts in the community that positively contribute to the forward momentum of the city.”

A graduate of Central Catholic High School, Harrison received a bachelor’s degree from the University of Toledo in 2001 and earned her master’s degree in communications in 2014 from Spring Arbor University.

She most recently served as senior communications manager for the Toledo Zoo and Aquarium. Prior to that she was director of the School Hubs Initiative at Scott High School, where she was involved in fundraising, community engagement projects and special-event planning. She also has held marketing and communications positions at the University of Toledo Medical Center and Mercy Memorial Hospital in Monroe, Michigan.

Harrison was presented a Toledo 20 Under 40 Leadership Award in 2014 and a Top Community Voices Award from the United Way of Greater Toledo in 2013 in recognition of her extensive community involvement. Her many activities include being on the board of Leadership Toledo, acting as the kick-off event chair for last year’s Restaurant Week Toledo and serving on the African-American Leadership Council of United Way of Greater Toledo. She is a past member of the Children’s Hunger Alliance board and at one time also was a Toledo Museum of Art volunteer and intern.

African Art Has Arrived!!

Hundreds of wood carvings from Ghana have recently arrived at The Truth Gallery – masks, statues, village scenes! All at unbelievably low prices!

The Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM

See more art online at www.thetruthtoledo.com

The Truth Gallery
1811 Adams Street
419-242-7650
UT Recruiting Students of All Ages to Become Teachers in Toledo Schools

Special to The Truth

The University of Toledo and Toledo Public Schools have partnered to create a new degree initiative called Teach Toledo to recruit and prepare Toledo’s citizens to become Toledo’s teachers.

“For teachers to be successful teachers in urban schools, above all else they need life experience and close relationships in urban neighborhoods,” said Lynne Hamer, PhD, UT professor of educational foundations and leadership in the UT Judith Herb College of Education and Program Coordinator for Teach Toledo.

Students who want to be part of Teach Toledo not only have to be admitted to UT, which requires a high school degree or GED, but also have to be selected for Teach Toledo via an interview process. The interview has two main questions: What experience living in central city Toledo or similar urban areas will you bring to the program so others can learn from you? And, what is your commitment to a career as an educator in Toledo?

Teach Toledo is based on the successful UT@TPS which held classes at Pickett Academy and then Jones Leadership Academy from 2011 till 2015. UT@TPS was designed to make college education more accessible to adults in the Toledo area while building a college-going culture in central-city schools.

The first students in the new Teach Toledo program will begin in the fall of 2016, but applications are being taken now. Twenty students will be accepted for the fall 2016 cohort, but organizers hope to have additional cohorts each year.

Teach Toledo students will receive partial tuition scholarships and earn an Associate of Arts degree with a focus on urban education.

At least the first year of college classes will take place at TPS’s Jones Leadership Academy where Teach Toledo students will gain early classroom experience by interacting with the pre-school, middle school and high school students who attend Jones.

“Graduates have no obligation to teach in Toledo,” Hamer said. “However, we know that people often go into teaching because they want to teach in their home town, and they want to be part of a school that their own children may attend.” By recruiting future teachers from Toledo neighborhoods, Teach Toledo expects to graduate many teachers with a passion for staying in their neighborhoods.

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Lucas County Children Services Recognizes Child Abuse Prevention Month

“Wear Blue Day,” Child Memorial Scheduled to Engage Community

Special to The Truth

Lucas County Children Services is announcing its activities to raise awareness that April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

On April 13, LCCS is once again encouraging Lucas County residents to join in Ohio’s “Wear Blue” day to combat child abuse. Now in its fifth year, “Wear Blue” urges people from all walks of life to wear blue on this day to show their support for keeping kids safe from abuse or neglect.

LCCS is asking people to post photos of themselves wearing blue on April 13 on the agency’s Facebook page, http://www.facebook.com/LucasCountyChildrenServices, by tweeting their photos using the hashtag #LucasCoOHKids or emailing images to information@co.lucas.oh.us.

Between April 2015 and April 2016, three children died in Lucas County as a result of physical abuse or neglect. LCCS will remember these youth at its annual memorial on April 29 at 11:30 a.m. at the agency’s offices at 705 Adams St., Toledo. This solemn ceremony will include comments from the Honorable Denise Navarre Cubbon, Lucas County Juvenile Court Judge; and musical performances by the Ottawa Hills High School choir. The public is encouraged to attend.

Child Abuse and Neglect Statistics

In 2015, LCCS received 4,517 referrals for suspected child abuse or neglect, up six percent from 2014. These reports involved 6,825 alleged child victims, also up six percent from the previous year, and led us to confirm that 1,072 children were maltreated in 2015, up 11 percent from the previous year. Nearly half of them were five years old or younger.

The most referrals (8,563) came from the 43605 zip code, but the highest rate of referrals came from the 43604 zip code, where more than 121 of every 1,000 children was the subject of a report of suspected abuse or neglect. Substance abuse was an identified problem for half of new cases opened for ongoing services in 2015; nearly 60 percent of those cases involved heroin or opiate abuse, followed by mental health and domestic violence.

Perryman... continued from page 2

Gerken’s ties, roots, experience and savvy all make him the favorite in November. However, as an African-American candidate liked by suburban voters, Bell will likely pull a chunk of votes that would normally go to the Democrat candidate. Also, Bell’s distant second place finish to Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson in last year’s mayoral election, demonstrates that the former mayor is not reviled as he once was or that the memory of his stand on the anti-worker Senate Bill 5 has begun to fade.

In any event, the race for Lucas County Commissioner is likely to be a fierce one.

The outcome of this local race will also come down to black voters’ ability to distinguish intimate friends from casual acquaintances.

Contact Rev. Donald Perryman, D.Min, at drdperryman@centerofhopebaptist.org
Job Hunting? What Careers and Skills Are in Greatest Demand This Year

Special to The Truth

Understanding the evolving job market can help you focus your energy productively and land a coveted new job.

The recently released 2016 Hot Jobs List, published by Randstad US, one of the largest HR services and staffing companies in the United States, sheds light on important trends and predicts the jobs in greatest demand for the coming year. Some hot areas include information technology, human resources, finance and accounting, office and administration, engineering, and manufacturing and logistics. And there’s good news — experts say that across the board, job candidates can raise their expectations.

So what are the most in-demand jobs and skills needed to secure employment in these fields? Consider the following insights and predictions from the Randstad 2016 Hot Jobs study:

• Engineers will be highly sought after this year to support innovative technologies, especially in sectors that have not typically required engineering talent in the past, such as healthcare and entertainment.

• Technology will continue to transform finance and accounting, presenting a tremendous opportunity to elevate these types of roles. The key will be helping to shape company strategy through a comprehensive data approach.

• Organizations will likely gravitate toward human resource candidates with specific skills to cope with an increasingly complex workforce environment, particularly around critical matters such as talent acquisition and retention, succession and compensation planning and workforce engagement.

• There continues to be a lack of skilled information technology talent, particularly in industries that deal with the increasingly complex issues related to cyber risk and business compliance. Companies will continue to seek those with soft skills, like strong writing and communication abilities.

• As the economy continues to improve, manufacturing companies are expanding their businesses. This will require an increase in highly-skilled talent. With industry workforce shortages, employers will need to consider different ways to attract and retain talent.

• The administrative role continues to evolve, particularly as new technologies are introduced into workflows. Additionally, many organizations are coping with baby boomers retiring at a rapid pace by advancing current employees into more senior roles, rather than replacing the positions outright. These trends create great opportunity for administrative talent.

For full study results, including HR insights and salary projections, visit randstadusa.com/workforce360.

With a little research and industry trend insight, you can achieve career success in 2016.

Courtesy StatePoint

Notre Dame Academy Offering Free Math Placement Test

Special to The Truth

Notre Dame Academy is offering a free math placement test for any girl currently in grades six to eight who would like to learn whether she would test into a math grade above her incoming grade level. Testing will be held on Wednesday, April 6 and Monday April 11 between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. each day.

For example, a student who will be in the ninth grade next fall can discover whether she would be best suited to a 10th grade level math course. A girl who will be in the seventh grade might be able to see if she would be better challenged in an eighth grade or ninth grade level math course.

There is no need to RSVP and girls need not have applied to Notre Dame. Current sixth and seventh grade students should bring a pencil. Current eighth grade students should bring a pencil and calculator. Notre Dame Academy is located at 3535 W. Sylvania in Toledo. Parking is available in the front parking lot.

Please check in at the main lobby. Questions prior to the test should be directed to NDA Math Department Chairman John McLaughlin, jmclaughlin@nda.org

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Women of the World 2016 Symposium

Several hundred women gathered at Start High School on Saturday, March 19, for the 2016 Women of the World (W.O.W.) Symposium to discuss the wellbeing and empowerment of women and adolescent girls, to experience presentation of dozens of women-owned business vendors and to celebrate the accomplishment of this year’s honorees – the SHEroes – who contribute to that wellbeing.

This fourth annual symposium was organized by a planning circle led by Chairmen CeCe Norwood and included Carolyn Wilson, Michelle Radtkin, Deb Stoll, Aly Barakat, Jada Collins, Kelly Norwood, Ashley LaPlant, Nina Corder, Marjory Curry, Frances Collins, K. LaVerne Redden, Olivia Holden, Glyndale Mathews and Ronda Cobb.

The symposium, with a theme of “Celebrating Women: Past, Present & Future,” began appropriately enough with a tribute to this year’s honorees. Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson served as the mistress of ceremonies and introduced the 2016 SHEroes recipients: Carla McGhee in the field of education; Stacy Turner for business; Susan McHugh for volunteerism; Irma Colbert for humanitarianism; Alicia Smith for community involvement and K. LaVerne Redden... continued on page 9
for political activism.

After the ceremony, breakout sessions were conducted. There were five groups of sessions during the morning: Financial Planning for Women by Ronda Cobb; How Internet, Radio and Podcasting Can Help Your Small Business by Amber Hawkins; Teen Dating Violence (for youth) by Danielle Cisterino-Hajdu; Real Women, Real Stories by Jean Schoen and Caring for Your Adolescent by Monica Berson.

After lunch and a visit to the vendor marketplace, the next sessions were held: Entrepreneurship by Olivia Holden; Build Your Future by Paula Fortini; Empower Yourself in 5 Easy Steps by Tammy Reveszy; My Story, My Way (for youth) by Marjory Curry; Drug Abuse Prevention (for youth) by Andrea Hill; Dance Lesson – the Hustle by Waverly Hawkins; Charge it Right by Michelle Gorsuch; The Golden Circle: Learn Your Way by Nina Corder; Maximize Success and Satisfaction by Monica Berson; A Moment of Truth (for youth) by Marjory Curry and Finding Your Emotional self (for youth) by Crystal Harris.

“W.O.W. Toledo is a collaborative effort of women-owned businesses, individuals and women-focused organizations that share a common goal and interest: the wellbeing and empowerment of women and adolescent girls,” writes CeCe Norwood about the mission of the group. “We are women who know the importance of uplifting adolescent girls and other women in a society that does not always do so.”

Women of The World.. continued from page 8

The ride of Toledo!

TARPS is a special service for riders with special needs and covers the entire TARTA service area. Toledo Area Regional Paratransit Service operates in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Save a lot on gasoline and reduce the wear and tear on your car by using a TARTA Park-N-Ride. Not only will you save money on vehicle maintenance costs and expensive fill-ups, you’ll avoid expensive parking fees and be able to relax during your commute.

Catch any Mud Hens or Walleye home game with a direct round-trip ride to downtown from several Toledo-area locations. No driving. No parking. No hassles. Convenient! And there’s no game ticket required to ride.

Call-A-Ride is a smart curb-to-curb service in Maumee, Ottawa Hills, Rossford, Sylvania/ Sylvania Twp., and Waterville. You can combine your trips with regular TARTA Line service, or other nearby Call-A-Rides.
Social Work Students Are “Forging Solutions Out of Challenges”

Special to The Truth

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) each March honors the 600,000 social workers in the U.S. who have a whole-hearted dedication to serving and helping those in need. This year’s theme is “Forging Solutions Out of Challenges.” Social workers regularly deal with the challenging issues that society faces. NASW recognizes these dedicated professionals who forge solutions and helps others reach their full potential and make our nation a better place to live.

Improving the quality of life

Those who choose a career in social work are dedicated to improving the overall quality of life of those they serve. The social work profession addresses the quality of direct and deliverable services as well as accessibility, accountability and coordination among professionals and agencies. Lourdes University offers an exceptional social work program. Designed to prepare graduates to possess excellent communication skills and be effective listeners, the liberal arts education broadens students’ knowledge of the world and various cultures allowing them to best serve their clients whose everyday life is presented with various emotional, mental and social challenges.

In teaching students to view ethnic, sexual, racial identity and differing abilities from a culturally-competent, strengths-based perspective, Lourdes University graduates are prepared to serve at-risk populations, advocate for human rights and social justice, engage in critical thinking, evaluate practice research and examine personal values and professional ethics. Graduates often further their education with a Master of Social Work, many enrolling in the graduate social work program of St. Louis University that is offered on the Lourdes campus.

The Lourdes program is unique because of its faith-informed focus that is derived from the university’s Catholic Franciscan traditions. Joyce Litten, PhD, associate professor of Social Work and Nursing, explains that the program has “a professional identity with the same accreditations as other programs, but is more spiritually focused.”

Possessing strong ties with the North American Association of Christians in Social Work (NASCW), the Lourdes program bonds the practices of social work with the Christian mission. Students are also encouraged to attend and network with their peers at NASCW’s yearly convention.

Making a difference in the broader community

Lourdes social work students have a presence in the regional community. Being active citizens allows them to better understand the people they will one day serve. Recent outreach projects have included Tent City Toledo, the Toledo Heroin Rally and an on-campus child abuse prevention awareness program. Litten stresses to her students the important role they play in this profession. “It is more than charity; we as social workers are called to be a part of social justice,” she says.

Not only does the program reach out to Toledo-area communities, it also offers opportunities to help those abroad. Terry Keller, assistant professor and chairman of Social Work, hosts an annual study abroad program to serve communities in Ireland. This experience gives students a one-of-a-kind experience to work with a different culture.

Prepared for success

Accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, graduates of the Lourdes program are well prepared to pursue a master’s degree and begin their professional career. In the last three years, 100 percent of social work graduates secured employment in their field before graduation.

To learn more about the Lourdes University social work program, visit www.lourdes.edu/socialwork or call 419-885-5291.
TSA GuitarFest Returns This April with Nathan Montgomery

Toledo School for the Arts (TSA) is set to host their annual Guitar-Fest on Saturday, April 9. This event celebrates all things guitar and will include clinics, equipment vendors, prizes and a raffle for a Reverend Charger HB electric guitar. GuitarFest is open to players of all ages and skill levels and runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at TSA’s 333 14th Street location in downtown Toledo.

Special guests for the 2016 happening includes recording artist Nathan Montgomery along with Aayan Naim, Ken Zuercher, Uncle Lewie, Maddison Binkley, Bobby Tazara, Kaiden Chase and Ross Thompson. The musicians will run workshop covering guitar bases such as rock, blues, jazz, bluegrass, alternate tuning, songwriting and more.

“This is a can’t-miss event for all musicians, regardless of age, to come share ideas and their love of music,” said event coordinator and TSA private music lesson instructor Randy Sobel.

GuitarFest admission is $20 per adult and just $15 for students K-12. The Fest is not limited to currently enrolled TSA students but is open to the public.

“We enjoy providing this offering for young musicians across the region to increase their skills and knowledge,” said TSA Assistant Artistic Director Letha Ferguson about the event.

Interested guitarists may register online now at tsaguitarfest.eventbrite.com or by calling 419.246.8732 ext. 291. More information on this and other TSA events is available online also.
The Y Spotlights Its Work Within Communities in First-Ever Nationwide Marketing Campaign

YMCA of the USA (Y-USA) and the YMCA of Greater Toledo launched For a better us.™, a nationwide multimedia marketing campaign designed to educate consumers on the Y’s work as one of the most effective and enduring charitable organizations in the country. For a better us.™ is meant to change the perception of the Y and raise awareness of the work it does in the areas of youth development, healthy living and social responsibility to address pressing social issues in more than 10,000 communities around the country.

“This bold campaign underscores the importance of the life-changing work performed by Y staff and volunteers around the country,” said Kevin Washington, president and CEO of YMCA of the USA. “On a daily basis they drive the positive change and outcomes that strengthen our communities and the people who call them home.”

UT Recruiting Students... continued from page 5

“Across the nation, we have a problem that teachers often start their careers in urban schools, but they don’t stay in them,” Hamer noted. “Oftentimes this gets communicated as being a problem with the urban schools and families. But it could just as well be seen as a matter of teacher familiarity and comfort: many teachers want to teach in schools that feel familiar, and we haven’t been recruiting future teachers from urban schools in a focused, purposeful way.”

The shortage of teachers of color nationwide can be traced back to Brown vs. Board of Education, the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court case in which the justices held that school segregation was unconstitutional. An unintended consequence of Brown was that African-American teachers were fired because school boards would not hire them to teach in integrated classrooms. Black teachers weren’t allowed to teach white students. This devastated the African-American teaching profession, a blow from which we have yet to recover.

Teach Toledo is designed to make sure that teachers understand this history and how it affects their chosen profession. In addition, the Teach Toledo curriculum includes courses in African history, African-American culture, Latin American history, and Latino culture.

“It is well documented that schools in the U.S. have served to ’deculturalize’ people of color,” said Hamer. “We see this in the continued Eurocentric curriculum: in most schools, and in most colleges of education, students still do not get exposed to most of the world’s history and culture. Teach Toledo is designed to make sure our teachers do not inherit and perpetuate a Eurocentric curriculum.”

TPS leadership has given full support for the collaboration. “As a TPS and UT graduate, I know the power of teaching in our city, which is why I believe in Teach Toledo,” said TPS Superintendent Romules Durant, EdD.

Students who attend the program full time, which is four classes per semester, will complete the associate degree in five semesters. It is also possible to attend the program part-time, or two classes per semester, but completion time will double.

Organizers hope that upon graduation with their associates degrees, Teach Toledo graduates will want to pursue a teaching license. “We have selected courses for the Associate degree that are also required for the Bachelor’s of Education in Early Childhood Education,” Hamer explained. With current requirements, a Teach Toledo graduate could complete the Bachelor’s of Education and be eligible to apply for a state teaching license in five additional semesters, beyond the associate degree.

“Teach Toledo courses have the same requirements as those on campus except that they will be specially designed to focus on issues and knowledge essential to urban teaching,” Hamer said. “These include African and African American history and culture, Latin American and Latino American history and culture, understanding the impact of various levels of government on schooling, understanding economic systems in urban environments, and working for the common good and social welfare.”

For more information about how to enroll in Teach Toledo, go to utoledo.edu/education/teachtoledo
The Quickest Kid in Clarksville by Pat Zietlow Miller, Illustrated by Frank Morrison

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Truth Contributor

You are the best kid… at something.

You can run the fastest. You can jump the highest. You’re the best skipper, the best hopper, or the best dancer. But what if there was somebody better than you? See what might happen in The Quickest Kid in Clarksville by Pat Zietlow Miller, illustrated by Frank Morrison.

Alta was the fastest runner in Clarksville, Tennessee, and everybody knew it.

She wasn’t as fast as Wilma Rudolph, but Alta was close and that made her dream. What, she wondered, would it be like to have three Olympic gold medals hanging around her neck? Would Wilma bring her medals to the parade she’d be riding in? The parade was tomorrow; Alta and her friends were even making a banner for it.

And then some girl Alta had never met before came “sashaying” over with the brand-spankingest, whitest shoes Alta had ever seen. She said her name was Charmaine and her shoes sparkled - they were just made for running. Alta’s shoes had holes in them but shoes can’t tell who’ll win a race. Not even Wilma had the best things, at first.

Alta challenged Charmaine to a race – and won.

Charmaine challenged Alta to another race – and Charmaine won.

Alta was sure that was because Charmaine tripped her. Or because Alta’s toe was poking out of the front of her shoe, which really made her sad because Mama said those shoes had to last…

On parade day, while Alta and her friends were finishing the banner, Charmaine came by, strutting “like she’s queen of the block.” Alta wasn’t having any of that; she far preferred to remember that Wilma Rudolph, the fastest woman alive, was coming to town to be in a parade. Maybe she might even see the banner, and she might wave.

As Alta started to run to the parade route with the banner, she suddenly realized that the banner was heavy and awkward. It wrapped itself up and caught the wind. It was long, too. There’d be no way she’d get to the parade in time.

How would she ever make it?

Who likes to lose? Nobody, that’s who, but there are times when losing isn’t a bad thing. Sometimes, it means winning and The Quickest Kid in Clarksville shows your child how that works.

There’s a lot of sass and attitude inside this book, and charm all over; author Pat Zietlow Miller’s main character has scads of it, in fact, but it’s a confident boldness that kids just can’t miss. Thanks to artwork by Frank Morrison, the fierceness never leaves Alta’s face, even when her new adversary steps into the ‘hood – a frenemy who’s surprisingly equal to Alta - leading to a show-down, an ultimate olive branch, and an ending that’ll make you smile.

If your kids are curious, Miller also includes a page on the real Wilma Rudolph, putting this book into further prospective. That may be too much info for younger readers, but five-to-eight-year-olds might find The Quickest Kid in Clarksville to be the best.
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**INVITATION FOR BIDS**

**WINDOW REPLACEMENTS AT DORRELL MANOR**

IFB#16-B003

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive bids for Window Replacements at Dorrell Manor. Received in accordance with law until April 5, 2016, 11AM ET. Pre-Bid Meeting: Mar 21 at 10AM ET. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 435 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9487 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. Sec. 3 Compliance Applicable.

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**INVITATION FOR BIDS**

**PAINT AND PAINT SUPPLIES**

IFB#16-B002

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority (LMHA) will receive bids for Paint and Paint Supplies. Received in accordance with law until March 31, 2016, 11AM ET. For documents: www.lucasmha.org; 435 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH 43604; or 419-259-9487 (TRS: Dial 711). Bidders required to meet Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity requirements as described in Executive Order #11246. Sec. 3 Compliance Applicable.
Community Partners’ Fourth Open House Seeks to Empower Toledo’s Youth

Partners Empowering Community Safety Empowering-Zone 4

Special to The Truth

On Monday, March 21, 2016, from 6 to 8 p.m., a community event at Believe Center on Aurora Gonzalez Drive featured Toledo-area human services providers, elected officials, public agencies and various experts focusing on community involvement to help prevent and recover from issues as it relates to personal safety, drug abuse, and bullying.

Toledo area youth listened to inspiring personal stories from community members, personal testimonies from community members and were given an opportunity to create, what are called, Empowerment-Zones—or “E-Zones”—to link those most affected by violence to much-needed services.

“E-Zone 4” was free and open to the public; food and refreshments were served.

Partners Empowering Community Safety (PECS) is a partnership of Toledo-area citizens, elected officials, business leaders, law enforcement, fire and rescue, court officers, education system leaders, clergy, graduate students, and public agencies have been working together to help end violence in the Toledo community.

From these meetings “Partners Empowering Community Safety (PECS)” took shape. PECS is working to build protective factors, meet needs, address concerns, and simply make Toledo a better place. www.Facebook.com/ToledoPECS • 567-455-104967-455-1049